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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION I

J. F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02203

July 9, 1984

George T. Leach, Chairman
Board of Selectmen
Westport, Massachusetts 02790

U.S. v. AVX Original
Litigation Document

Dear Mr. Leach:

Thank you for your interest in the New Bedford Area Public Information Meeting. We regret that the meeting was scheduled for the same evening as your regular weekly Selectmen's meeting. However, when so many towns, interest groups and citizens are involved in a meeting it is impossible to accommodate everyone.

Many important issues were raised by the citizens of the New Bedford Harbor area concerning public health, environmental protection, recreation, and public education and safety. To respond to some of the major concerns my office has already initiated the following actions:

- 1) Discuss the health issues that should be addressed in the health study with Massachusetts Public Health Commissioner Walker;
- 2) Determine the costs and logistics associated with installing metal warning signs in the mud flats of the Acushnet River Estuary;
- 3) Discuss increasing the enforcement of the fishing ban with Environmental Affairs Secretary Hoyte;
- 4) Review documents submitted by the Southeastern Health Project, Clean Water Action Project, and LIFE; and
- 5) Provide support to public education efforts underway in the New Bedford area.

Work at the Resolve Superfund site is scheduled to begin imminently. CECOS, the Superfund site contractor, will begin site access work (e.g., construction of entrance and exit roads, move equipment onto the site, etc.) this week. Waste solidification and removal should begin in the next few weeks. Under an agreement with EPA, the United States Army Corps of Engineers will manage the \$4.6 million contract that will excavate 14,300 cubic yards of material from the site.

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A press availability has been tentatively scheduled for July 23, during the day, at the Resolve site in Dartmouth, Massachusetts to discuss these and other important cleanup and site related issues.

I appreciate your ongoing and strong interest in environmental and public health concerns of the residents of Westport and southeastern Massachusetts. If you have any questions or require additional information, please call Gerry Sotolongo, Superfund Project Officer at (617) 223 - 1951.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael R. Deland", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael R. Deland
Regional Administrator

cc: Edith DeMello, President
LWV of New Bedford - Fall River Area

bcc: M. Hohman/HAA-1903
S. Sladek/RGR-2203